Directions by National Commission for SC/ST

1863. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any direction/instruction has been given by the National Commission for SC/ST based on letter received from 'All India Association for SC/ST and Physically Handicapped Peoples Upliftment' for allotment of Residential Flat/Plots etc. on 9th December, 2003 to New Okhla Industrial Development Authority; and

(b) if so, the authority's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

National Commission for SCs/STs

1864. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the old National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been bifurcated into two Commissions, one for the Scheduled Castes and the another for the Scheduled Tribes;

(b) whether Chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has been given the Cabinet status but the Chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes has not been given the Cabinet status for the last nine months; if so, the reasons for this delay; and

(c) whether the Commission for Scheduled Castes is already short of staff and the non-providing of Cabinet status to the Chairman has further aggravated the shortage of staff?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Two separate national commissions, namely the National Commission for Scheduled Castes under Article 338

and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes under Article 338(a) of the Constitution have been constituted in February, 2004. The staff strength of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes is not relatable to the personal status conferred on the Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson/Members. Therefore, the functioning of the Commission is not affected.

The Chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has been accorded the status of a Cabinet Minister in terms of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Members (Conditions of Service & Tenure) Rules, 2004.

The status of Cabinet Minister is conferred on Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes on personal basis, Accordingly the case is being processed in consultation with the concerned Ministry.

Incidents of atrocities against SCs/STs

†1865. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of atrocities against the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are still on the increase in various States and regions of the country;

(b) if so, the number of such cases registered under Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 during the last five years;

(c) the number of cases disposed of under legal procedure, State-wise;

(d) the number of persons punished, State-wise; and

(e) the number of cases still pending, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE , AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.